

**IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

**AND IN THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

**AND IN THE PROVINCIAL COURT OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

**DIRECTIVE RESPECTING ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE COURTROOM**

**This directive applies to all levels of court in New Brunswick when court is in session and is applicable to all present in the courtroom, including media, lawyers, and members of the public.**

Electronic devices include but are not limited to cell phones, pagers, Blackberry devices, video/still cameras, audio recorders, lap tops, personal data assistants or other devices that produce record or transmit text, audio, video or still photographs.

**Restrictions**

- Cell phones shall not be answered but may be set on vibrating mode unless this operation interferes with court recording devices.
- Text shall not be transmitted.
- Photographs or digital images shall not be taken or transmitted.
- Audio recordings or video images shall not be taken or transmitted.

**The following exceptions shall be granted unless otherwise prohibited by the presiding judge or panel of judges**

- Members of the **media** may make an audio recording for the sole purpose of verifying notes. Journalists may use electronic devices to capture notes and transmit text provided that the device used does not interfere with court recording equipment.
- **Lawyers** representing the parties to the proceeding may use a laptop, notebook or tablet to take notes, refer to a submission or to access on-line research during a court sitting.
- **Law enforcement officers** may use an electronic device to take notes or to update a file.

**DATED** this 29 day of June, 2012



**J. Ernest Drapeau**  
Chief Justice of New Brunswick  
Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal  
Of New Brunswick



**David D. Smith**  
Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's  
Bench of New Brunswick



**R. Leslie Jackson**  
Chief Judge of the Provincial  
Court of New Brunswick